

Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

November 18, 2004

Members Present: Members Absent:

Cheryl Ethier Mary Varr

Joe Dziobek Dave Hartley

Claudette Lussier

Roberta Gosselin

Carl Brunetti

Ken Booth

Bob Ericson

Linda Noble

The meeting began at 7:40 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of October 14 were distributed for review.

It was noted that Carl Brunetti filled the position left vacant by Ted Sullivan, not the position left vacant by John Sheehan.

Ken Booth had spoken with the Town Council President regarding the Management Audit, but they had not moved forward with any action.

Joe Dziobek made a motion to accept the minutes of October 14. The motion was seconded by Roberta Gosselin. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Before beginning the meeting, Ken Booth asked if there were any

comments or questions from the public. Benny Sisto was present and stated that he thought that the town lacked in the ability to produce timely reports and also that the Auditor is not supposed to produce reports but is supposed to work from the reports given to which is the opposite of what is actually happening.

Joe Dziobek stated that he had not officially chosen anyone to fill the vacant position left by John Sheehan. The two candidates at the time were Dean Lees and Ray Robidoux. He stated that he would take everything into consideration and have a decision before the next meeting.

In new business, the Budget Board received a revised school expenditure budget. The School Subcommittee brought up the last Town Council Meeting and the fact that the schools would like to add an Assistant Finance Director.

The School Subcommittee had received updated information from Lori Miller, but it appears to be old information because the Principal of the High School is still shown as Fred Silva. Ken Booth requested that the School Subcommittee further analyze the information given for the Budget Board.

Ken Booth suggested a meeting with the Auditors during the Budget Season to discuss their findings.

The Budget Board discussed the new bleachers for the football field. The Athletic Director did not seem to know that bleachers were even going to be ordered or installed until it was done, and comments have been made that the bleachers do not seat that many people.

The Budget Board discussed what can be done with money that is put into the budget by resolution and what cannot be done.

Linda Noble suggested taking a walk through of the schools to see what has been done, or even maybe just meet with Angelo, the head of Maintenance to discuss what had been done. Cheryl said that she would see if they could set up a meeting for the second week of December.

The Budget Board found out that pending a job offer, the Finance Director of the Town would possibly be leaving in June.

The Budget Board discussed sending a letter to the Town Council stating that they should follow through with the Management Audit.

The Budget Board discussed having a Revenue Subcommittee that would just focus on the revenue and State Aid within the town. One example of doing a better job getting revenue was that the Town should hire a grant writer so that the town will receive more grant monies.

The Budget Board discussed the two finalists selected in the process

of hiring a new Superintendent. Bob Ericson had attended the meetings and stated that the next step taken will be to go to the towns where the candidates last lived or practiced and maybe verify some background information about them.

Roberta Gosselin had been to another meeting of the Pension Committee. She noted that Lori Miller was invited but did not respond or attend. The Pension Committee is going to draft a letter to the Schools saying that they need information and that it has not been forthcoming. The Pension Board will also begin to post regular meetings and take minutes.

The Budget Board welcomed public comments and questions.

Benny Sisto suggested having the new members of the Town Council meet with the Budget Board to let them know what their purpose and goals are and to let them know that the Budget Board is out there to help them.

Benny also stated that he would offer to help with the Revenue Subcommittee because he felt that it was an important part of the budget.

Benny also suggested that since the Finance Director may be leaving in June, it might be a good time to take a better look at the salary and raise the compensation to draw better candidates. Ken Booth noted that salaries are set by the Town Council.

Linda Noble made a motion to adjourn. Cheryl Ethier seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.